

SINGING IN THE RAIN

CMBC May 11, 2014

Psalm 42:1 – 11

Psalm 42 was probably a poem written by David and adapted by the Temple musicians, the Sons of Korah.

1. AN HONEST OPEN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- a. Calling for mercy – again
 - i. David has such a close, personal relationship with God that he can come to God again and again, very open and honest about his feelings, and plead his case to God, even complain to God, and plead for mercy from God.
 - ii. **ILL. My son was on staff with me. Of all the staff members, he could be the most honest and open with me.**
 - iii. David felt free to complain to God
- b. And always trusting
 - i. In the midst of trouble, and there was lots of it for David, he still trusted God.
 - ii. He dared to complain to God because he trusted God.
 - iii. This is where the title for this message comes from – SINGING IN THE RAIN.
Psalm 42:7 – 8 ..all your waves and breakers have swept over me. [8] By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life.
 - iv. Some of his most meaningful Psalms were written in the midst of trouble.
 - v. Some of David's greatest expressions of trust, came in the context of trouble.
 - vi. Mothers live in a swirl of trouble, challenges, schedule, decisions, messes, demands.
 - The mother of my children, my sweet Ruth, is one who often sings in the rain.
 - May God give us mothers who learn to sing in the rain.
 - vii. David had an amazing honest and open relationship with God.
 - viii. Let me add this: We need to have that kind of relationship with each other, one where our relationship is strong enough to hear our complaints, built on a foundation of trust.

- ix. David had a relationship with God where he could SING IN THE RAIN.

2. THE CRUSH OF LIFE

Is the context of David's singing.

- a. The tears
- b. The discouragement
- c. The waves of trouble
- d. The loneliness

[3] My tears have been my food day and night,

[5] Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?

(Says this 3 times. Trouble had him discouraged, depressed.)

[9] I say to God my Rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?"

- e. Waves of trouble
 - i. [7] Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.
 - ii. **ILL. Here is the picture:** You are caught in a raging river trying to get out. You are fighting your way to the shore, but you then step into steep embankment and get swept under again. You find your footing again, but another dip in the river bottom pulls you under and the waves and breakers sweep over you.
Your trouble, it seems, is just like that.
 - 1. Another person yells at you
 - 2. Another argument
 - 3. Another misunderstanding
 - 4. Another phone call with bad news
 - 5. Another decision gone wrong
 - 6. Another night without sleep
- f. This is David's circumstance. This is the context of his singing.
 - Tears, discouragement, loneliness, waves of trouble.

3. BUT A DEEP LOVE FOR GOD

- a. A heartfelt need for God
 - i. [1] As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. [2] My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

- ii. **ILL.** Travelling through the desert, with temperatures over 110 F and only warm water, the taste of cool water was an experience to remember.
- iii. **ILL.** Getting pompanos at a missionary's home, and now a longing to drink it.
- iv. That was David's love for God

- b. A longing to be with God
 - i. He adds, [2] **My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God.**
 - ii. It is this closeness to God, this love for God, that makes it possible for us to Sing In The Rain – through tears, discouragement, loneliness and waves of trouble.

How do you get there? Look at David's response in...

4. TACKLING THE DISCOURAGEMENT

In the swirl of all this, notice what David does to tackle the discouragement:

- a. Remembering the blessings
 - i. [4] **These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God, with shouts of joy and thanksgiving among the festive throng.**
 - ii. Remember the joys of meeting with God.
[2] When can I go and meet with God

- b. Rehearsing God's goodness
 - i. [8] **By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life.**
 - ii. Remember what God has done for you.
 - iii. He sacrificed His life to make you His child

- c. Retelling the stories
 - i. [6] **My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.**
 - ii. Get today's trouble in perspective by remembering how God brought you through all the times before.

David starts talking to himself.

5. TALKING-UP TRUST IN GOD

Instead of giving in to his trouble and discouragement, instead of giving up and staying in his depression, David talks to himself, talks himself into

some sense, into getting things into perspective.

- a. “**Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why are you so disturbed?**”
 - i. Come on! Why, David?
 - ii. Think this through!
 - iii. Get the whole picture!
 - iv. You have God on your side! He is the Sovereign God!
 - v. So why be so downcast?
- b. “**Put your hope in God.**”
 - i. God has been faithful before
 - ii. He is my Saviour and my God. He has already saved me.
 - iii. God is greater than any trouble you may face.
- c. “**Trust His future for you.**”
 - i. “**Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.**”
 - ii. Even if it seems hopeless now. Because He is God, the Sovereign God, I know that “**I will yet praise him.**”
 - iii. So now, Sing In The Rain.
 - iv. And they put this Psalm to music and sang it at their worship and praise services.

What is it that gets you down today?

Is it people.
Is it discouragement?
Is it pain?

Tell God about it.

Then remember who He is and what He has done.

You may not feel like singing today, but trust in Him, and believe that ,”**I will yet praise Him.**”

” **at night his song is with me”**

I wish this song was in our hymnbook:

Trust in the Lord

Words: Thomas Chisholm, 1937. Music: Wendell Loveless.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
This is God’s gracious command;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
So shall you dwell in the land.

Refrain

*Trust in the Lord, O troubled soul,
Rest in the arms of His care;
Whatever your lot, it mattereth not,
For nothing can trouble you there;
Trust in the Lord, O troubled soul,
Nothing can trouble you there.*

Trust in the Lord who ruleth all,
Seeth all things as they are,
Be it a birdling in its nest,
Or yonder uttermost star.

Trust in the Lord and peaceful be,
Fret not thy spirit in vain,
What though the answer tarries long,
Still shalt thou praise Him again.

Trust in the Lord—His eye will guide
All thro' your pathway ahead,
He hath redeemed and He will keep,
Trust Him and be not afraid.